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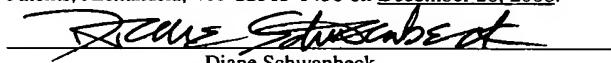
## PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*In re* the application of: ) Group Art Unit: 3621  
Dieter WEISS et al. )  
Application No. 10/579,961 ✓ ) Examiner: Not Assigned  
Filing Date: March 27, 2007 ) Atty. Docket No. WACHP011  
For: AUTHORIZATION OF A TRANSACTION ) Date: December 26, 2008  
 ) Confirmation No. 9260

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 26, 2008.

  
Diane Schwanbeck**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of the non-U.S. references of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to consider these references and to acknowledge such consideration by signing the attached PTO Form 1449 at the appropriate location.

References L, N, and O are in languages other than English. The relevance of References N and O may be ascertained by reviewing References S and T, which are English language abstracts of References N and O, respectively. Reference A is believed to be an English-language equivalent of Reference L. In addition, some of the references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449 were cited in a German Patent and Trademark Office Search Report (GPTO SR) issued in the corresponding German application. An English translation of the GPTO SR is attached for the Examiner's use and information.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed before the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fees are due in connection with the filing of this IDS. In the event fees are due to effect consideration of the listed references, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-0805 (Order No. WACHP011).

Respectfully submitted,  
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